

North Smithfield Fire/Rescue Service, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

February 11, 2014

Called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Roll call of Voting Members:

Chairman: Paul Shatraw

Vice Chair: Paul Lefebvre (absent)

Treasurer: Dan O'Brien

Secretary: Brian VanHouwe

At-large: Pamela LaBarre, Kathy Shatraw (absent)

Non-voting member: Fire Chief Joel Jillson

Motion by Mr. O'Brien to dispense with regular order of business to address bills and communications from December and January (no quorum meetings), seconded by Mrs. LaBarre. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Jillson explained the need for the Cutters Edge purchase and the payment of VFIS premium which was past due in January.

Mr. O'Brien mentioned that civilians did receive a bonus in December, and questioned the National Grid \$60,000 donation. Chief Jillson explained the circumstances leading up to their funding of a 10,000 gallon cistern. Location yet to be determined, but possibly could be

on Station 2 land. Mr. VanHouwe suggested alternate locations on Town owned land.

Motion by Mrs. LaBarre to pay December bills as submitted in packet, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, and passed unanimously.

Motion by Mrs. LaBarre to pay January bills as submitted in packet, seconded by Mr. VanHouwe, and passed unanimously.

Communications (December/January): Probationary Firefighter Andrew Dybala completed one year satisfactorily. Motion by Mr. VanHouwe to place him on "permanent" status, seconded by Mrs. LaBarre, passed unanimously.

Chief Jillson explained need for two new computers (see SNECS quote in packet). Motion by Mrs. LaBarre to purchase same which includes labor to install hardware and software, seconded by Mr. VanHouwe. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Jillson recommended 24 hour generator service maintenance program for \$880/year (both stations) as per proposal (see packet). Motion for same by Mrs. LaBarre, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, passed unanimously.

Chief Jillson received request from R.I.A.F.C. for donations for "memorial park" to honor Chief Robert and Rene Coutu. Motion by Mr. O'Brien to contribute \$100, seconded by Mr. VanHouwe, passed unanimously.

(resumed regular order of business for February meeting)

Secretary's Report:

Minutes of the last (November) meeting as emailed accepted with a motion by Mr. VanHouwe, seconded by Mrs. LaBarre. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

Submitted (see packet) and explained by Mr. O'Brien noting that we are about where we were projected to be. Discussion and questions from Mr. VanHouwe. Motion to accept by Mr. VanHouwe, seconded by Mrs. LaBarre. The motion passed unanimously.

Bills: (see attached) Chief Jillson explained purchase from Mr. Trophy as an appreciation memento to departing Board member Mr. Patrick Keeley. Mr. VanHouwe motioned to approve the payment of bills, seconded by Mrs. LaBarre. The motion passed unanimously.

Communications: see New Business.

Fleet:

Chief Jillson: Good to fair condition. New Rescue vehicle specifications and purchase being researched.

Facilities:

Chief Jillson: Further computer networking being studied.

North Smithfield Building Committee (Brian VanHouwe):

Studies ongoing, but at this point in time there is no bearing on this department.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Mr. VanHouwe suggest changes to future agendas to separate Bills from Communications, and omit report from N.S. Bldg. Committee. General agreement, will be done.

Mr. O'Brien explained that Audit (see packet) is a "qualified opinion" due to the fact that the State will not be able to submit a Pension Fund Liability Report until June 30, 2014. Motion made by Mrs. LaBarre to accept said Auditor's report, seconded by Mr. VanHouwe. The motion passed unanimously. Chief Jillson asked to send "letter of intent" to Town budget committee.

Chairman Shatraw questioned what does a widow get if a firefighter dies while still active? Mr. VanHouwe believes that it is only the employee's contributions.

From Chief Jillson:

1. Board member Patrick Keeley moved out of town and suggestions taken from members as to who might possibly be interested in

serving his unexpired ten month term. Chief Jillson feels we need to search for an unbiased, fair and honest business minded person.

2. What impact to this Board if Chairman Shatraw becomes Chief of Woonsocket Fire Department? Chair replies that the subject is premature right now.

Motion by Mr. O'Brien to buy 8 tickets @ \$25 for Woonsocket Rotary Club porketta fundraiser, seconded by Mrs. Labarre, and passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. VanHouwe to donate \$250 for table sponsorship at the N. Smithfield High School statewide Unity Ball (see packet), seconded by Mrs. LaBarre. The motion passed unanimously.

Personnel:

Pvt. Labarre (IOD 8/12/13) and Private Carnes referred to Executive Session.

Motion by Mr. VanHouwe, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to move to Executive Session at 7:44 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday of the month, March 11th, 2014.

Motion to adjourn at 7:52 p.m. by Mr. VanHouwe, 2nd by Mrs. LaBarre. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed)

Rose Zariczny

***all items noted as “attached” or “see packet” are available for viewing in the office of the Fire Chief, 1470 Providence Pike, North Smithfield, RI during regular business hours, 8:30-4:00, Monday through Friday.**